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SN 09/760,065

VIA FACSIMILE: (703) 872-9310

OFFICIALIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Thangaraj et al. :
: Examiner: N. Nguyen
SERIAL NO. : 09/760,065 :
: Art Unit: 1754
FILED : January 12, 2001 :
FOR : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AN
AQUEOUS SOLUTION CONTAINING CHLORINE DIOXIDE

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

BOX RECEIVED
MAR 5 2002
GROUP 1700
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Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed January 16, 2002, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. A marked-up copy of the amendments to the claims is attached.

Please amend the claims as follows:

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- 26. A device for producing an aqueous solution of chlorine dioxide comprising a water-permeable membrane defining at least in part an enclosed space containing a mixture of at least one metal chlorite and at least one acid forming component, said acid forming component being selected from the group consisting of water soluble acids, water soluble acid salts, synthetic molecular sieves, acid ion exchange resins, acid treated clays and acid treated calcined clays, and wherein said metal chlorite and said acid forming component are such that they will react with each other in the presence of water but not in the substantial absence of water to produce chlorine dioxide, said membrane being comprised of a material which permits: (a) liquid water and/or water vapor to pass through the membrane into the enclosed space to thereby allow the metal chlorite and the acid forming component to react to produce chlorine dioxide and (b) the so produced chlorine dioxide to pass through the membrane into a body of liquid water to produce the aqueous solution of chlorine dioxide.-